

In the Claims:

A complete listing of claims in the instant application is provided below as follows:

1 1. (Currently amended) A broadcast audio receiver system,
2 comprising:

3 a plurality of pairs of receivers, each pair of said
4 plurality of pairs receiving broadcasts on a unique broadcast
5 band defined by a broadcast signal that is one of an analog audio
6 signal or a digital audio signal;

7 a decoder coupled to each of said receivers for converting
8 each said broadcast signal to a character representation thereof,
9 wherein said decoder is a speech recognition decoder when said
10 broadcast signal is said analog audio signal, and wherein said
11 decoder is a digital decoder when said broadcast signal is said
12 digital audio signal;

13 input controls for receiving, from a user, a selected
14 frequency on a selected broadcast band and search criteria;

15 an audio output device;

16 control means coupled to said receivers, said input controls
17 and said audio output device for:

18 i) tuning one of said receivers to said selected frequency,

19 ii) coupling said one of said receivers to said audio output
20 device wherein all others of said receivers are not coupled to
21 said audio output device,

22 iii) scanning said broadcast band associated with each of
23 said all others of said receivers,

iv) comparing said character representation of said broadcast signal with said search criteria for each of said all others of said receivers,

v) generating a match signal when said search criteria is present in said character representation for one receiver from said all others of said receivers to thereby define a match frequency on a match broadcast band where said search criteria is present;

means, coupled to said control means, for generating an announcement in response to said match signal;

said input controls further being capable of receiving a match select signal from the user; and

said control means, in response to said match select signal, uncoupling said one of said receivers from said audio output device and coupling a designated one of said receivers capable of receiving said match frequency on said match broadcast band to said audio output device wherein said one of said receivers assumes a function that is the same as said all others of said receivers.

Claim 2 (Canceled)

3. (Original) A system as in claim 1 further comprising memory for storing at least one of said broadcast signal received on said match frequency and said character representation corresponding thereto.

1 4. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein said means for
2 generating an announcement generates at least one of an audio
3 announcement and a video announcement in response to said match
4 signal.

1 5. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein said input controls
2 comprise at least one of controls activated by touch and controls
3 activated by voice.

1 6. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein said input controls
2 are capable of receiving one of a voice message and a text
3 message from the user, and wherein said means for generating an
4 announcement can display text, said system further comprising a
5 wireless messaging module for sending and receiving messages over
6 the air waves, said wireless messaging module coupled to said
7 control means, said wireless messaging module comprising:

8 a filter for converting said one of a voice message and a
9 text message to a format suitable for wireless transmission; and
10 a wireless transceiver for transmitting said one of a voice
11 message and a text message in said format, and for receiving a
12 wireless text message, said wireless transceiver supplying said
13 wireless text message to said control means for routing to said
14 means for generating an announcement wherein said wireless text
15 message is displayed as text.

7. (Original) A broadcast audio receiver system, comprising:
a plurality of pairs of receivers, each pair of said
plurality of pairs receiving broadcasts on a unique broadcast
band defined by a broadcast signal that is one of an analog audio
signal or a digital audio signal;

a decoder coupled to each of said receivers for converting
each said broadcast signal to a character representation thereof;
input controls for receiving, from a user, a selected
frequency on a selected broadcast band and search criteria;

an audio output device;

foreground control means for coupling one of said receivers
capable of receiving said selected frequency to said audio output
device wherein said broadcast signal associated therewith is
audible and wherein said broadcast signal associated with each of
all others of said receivers is not audible;

background control means having operational control over
said all others of said receivers such that each said broadcast
band associated therewith is examined to determine whether said
search criteria is present in said character representation, and
for generating a match signal when said search criteria is
present in said character representation for one receiver from
said all others of said receivers to thereby define a match
frequency on a match broadcast band where said search criteria is
present;

means, coupled to said background control means, for
generating an announcement in response to said match signal;

27 said input controls further being capable of receiving a
28 match select signal from the user;

29 said foreground control means, in response to said match
30 select signal, uncoupling said one of said receivers from said
31 audio output device and coupling a designated one of said
32 receivers capable of receiving said match frequency on said match
33 broadcast band to said audio output device; and

34 said background control means assuming said operational
35 control over said one of said receivers uncoupled from said audio
36 output device.

1 8. (Original) A system as in claim 7 wherein said decoder is a
2 speech recognition decoder when said broadcast signal is said
3 analog audio signal, and wherein said decoder is a digital
4 decoder when said broadcast signal is said digital audio signal.

1 9. (Original) A system as in claim 7 further comprising memory
2 coupled to said background control means for storing at least one
3 of said broadcast signal received on said match frequency and
4 said character representation corresponding thereto.

1 10. (Original) A system as in claim 7 wherein said means for
2 generating an announcement generates at least one of an audio
3 announcement and a video announcement in response to said match
4 signal.

1 11. (Original) A system as in claim 7 wherein said input
2 controls comprise at least one of controls activated by touch and
3 controls activated by voice.

1 12. (Original) A system as in claim 7 wherein said input
2 controls are capable of receiving one of a voice message and a
3 text message from the user, and wherein said means for generating
4 an announcement can display text, said system further comprising
5 a wireless messaging module for sending and receiving messages
6 over the air waves, said wireless messaging module coupled to
7 said background control means, said wireless messaging module
8 comprising:

9 a filter for converting said one of a voice message and a
10 text message to a format suitable for wireless transmission; and
11 a wireless transceiver for transmitting said one of a voice
12 message and a text message in said format, and for receiving a
13 wireless text message, said wireless transceiver supplying said
14 wireless text message to said background control means for
15 routing to said means for generating an announcement wherein said
16 wireless text message is displayed as text.

13. (Currently amended) An audio processing method for a broadcast audio receiver system having a plurality of pairs of receivers, each pair of which receives broadcasts on a unique broadcast band defined by a broadcast signal that is one of an analog audio signal or a digital audio signal that can be reproduced by an audio output device, said method comprising the steps of:

converting each said broadcast signal to a character representation thereof, wherein said step of converting includes the step of performing speech recognition processing when said broadcast signal is said analog audio signal;

tuning one of said receivers to a user selected frequency; coupling said broadcast signal associated with said one of said receivers to said audio output device wherein all others of said receivers are not coupled to said audio output device;

scanning said broadcast band associated with each of said all others of said receivers;

comparing said character representation of said broadcast signal with said search criteria for each of said all others of said receivers;

generating a match signal when said search criteria is present in said character representation for one receiver from said all others of said receivers to thereby define a match frequency on a match broadcast band where said search criteria is present;

announcing the generation of said match signal;

27 receiving a match select signal from the user; and
28 uncoupling said one of said receivers from said audio output
29 device in response to said match select signal;
30 coupling a designated one of said receivers capable of
31 receiving said match frequency on said match broadcast band to
32 said audio output device in response to said match select signal;
33 and
34 performing said steps of scanning and comparing for said one
35 of said receivers so-uncoupled.

Claim 14 (Canceled)

1 15. (Original) A method according to claim 13 further comprising
2 the step of storing at least one of said broadcast signal
3 received on said match frequency and said character
4 representation corresponding thereto.

1 16. (Original) A method according to claim 13 wherein said step
2 of announcing comprises the step of generating at least one of an
3 audible manifestation and a visible manifestation of said match
4 signal.

1 17. (Original) A method according to claim 13 wherein said
2 character representation is an ASCII character representation.